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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): COLEBRAND LIMITED [GB/GB]; Colebrand House, 18-20 Warwick Street, Regent Street, London W1R 6BE (GB).

(72) Inventor; and

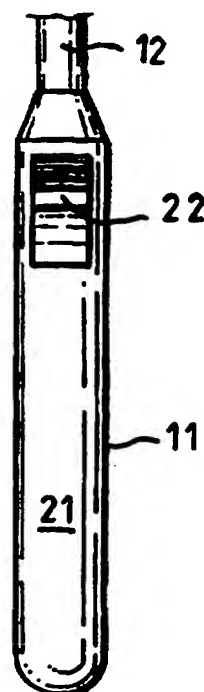
(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): TUSCH, Klaus, Norbert [GB/GB]; 2A Stormont Road, London N6 4NL (GB).

(74) Agent: CLINE, Roger, Ledlie; Edward Evans & Co., Chancery House, 53-64 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1SD (GB).

(54) Title: SHAVING APPARATUS

(57) Abstract

In order to save a shaver having to perform the separate operations of applying a lubricating substance to his beard and of subsequently shaving it, the apparatus provides apparatus including a reservoir (21) of lubricating substance together with actuating means (22) for supplying a quantity of the lubricating substance to the skin in advance of the application of the razor. When the user actuates the actuating means (22) while drawing the razor across the skin, he applies the lubricating substance to the beard and shaves it in a single operation.



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SHAVING APPARATUS

In the conventional wet shave, shaving soap is first applied to the beard and then shaving apparatus is applied to the skin to remove the shaving soap and the beard.

5 The present invention makes redundant the initial step of applying shaving soap to the beard by providing shaving apparatus comprising a holder, means for mounting a razor in the holder for application to the user's skin to shave his beard, a reservoir of lubricating substance and
10 actuating means actuatable to supply said lubricating substance to the portion of the holder adjacent the razor for lubricating the skin in advance of the application of the razor. The reservoir may be located in the holder and when the reservoir is an aerosol container, the actuating
15 means is preferably an aerosol valve for the aerosol container. On the other hand, the actuating means may comprise a pump for moving the substance from the reservoir to said position in advance of the razor. In any case, the holder may comprise a handle by which the user can hold the
20 holder and the actuating means is actuatable by the user's thumb when holding the handle in his hand.

An example of the invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of shaving apparatus,
25 Figure 2 is a front elevation of the top part of the apparatus of Figure 1, and

Figure 3 is a rear elevation of the lower part of the apparatus of Figure 1.

The illustrated shaving apparatus comprises a handle
30 11 with an angled extension piece 12, the free end 13 of which mounts a razor blade 14 which protrudes from the surface 15 of the holder to shave skin over which the surface 15 of the holder is drawn.

So far the apparatus described with reference to the drawings is conventional and the apparatus may vary from the form illustrated similar to other conventional shaving devices, for example, to have replaceable blades, or to have a head pivotable from a rest position about an axis parallel to the blade edge.

In the present apparatus, the handle 11 is hollow and its interior forms a reservoir 21 for shaving fluid. The main body of the handle 11 will be held by the user between his fingers and his palm and a button 22 is conveniently located at the top end of the handle for upwards movement by the user's thumb to force some shaving fluid from the reservoir up the internal bore 23 of the angled extension piece 12 to reach the surface 15 at point 24 immediately below (as seen in Figure 1) the razor blade 14. As the user draws the device in the direction of arrow A in Figure 1 across his skin, the shaving fluid at point 24 will lubricate the skin before the razor blade is applied to corresponding portions of the skin to remove the beard.

It is not necessary to activate the button 22 continuously. It has been found that one stroke of the button 22 in an upwards direction is sufficient to force a supply of fluid from the reservoir to the position adjacent the razor blade to lubricate the skin during one or even a plurality of strokes, depending on the viscosity and compressibility of the shaving fluid which may delay the response of fluid emerging at point 24 following a stroke of the button.

The reservoir may be rechargeable, or may be totally sealed so that the device is disposable after the reservoir has been exhausted. The reservoir may be an aerosol reservoir with a suitable aerosol valve operated by the button 22.

The holder may comprise a flexible bulb, which can be compressed at an actuating point to force fluid therefrom to point 24, thus making operation of the button 22 unnecessary. It would also be possible to locate the
5 reservoir outside the handle, connected thereto by a flexible conduit.

The apparatus described enables the user to lubricate his beard and shave it in a single operation by operating the button while drawing the razor across his skin so that
10 shaving fluid is forced into the position immediately upstream of the razor blade 14 so that it lubricates the skin which is immediately shaved by the razor blade as the apparatus is drawn across the skin. The user does not have to apply shaving fluid to the skin before taking up the
15 handle 11 to apply the razor to the skin. The shaving fluid is applied to the skin while the user is drawing the apparatus across the skin.

CLAIMS

1. Shaving apparatus comprising a holder, means for mounting a razor in the holder for application to the user's skin to shave his beard, a reservoir of lubricating
5 substance and actuating means actuatable to supply said lubricating substance to the portion of the holder adjacent the razor for lubricating the skin in advance of the application of the razor.
2. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the reservoir
10 is located in the holder.
3. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the reservoir comprises an aerosol reservoir and the actuating means comprises an aerosol valve.
4. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein
15 the actuating means comprises a pump for moving the substance from the reservoir to said position in advance of the razor.
5. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the holder comprises a handle by which the
20 user can hold the holder and the actuating means is actuatable by the user's thumb when holding the handle in his hand.

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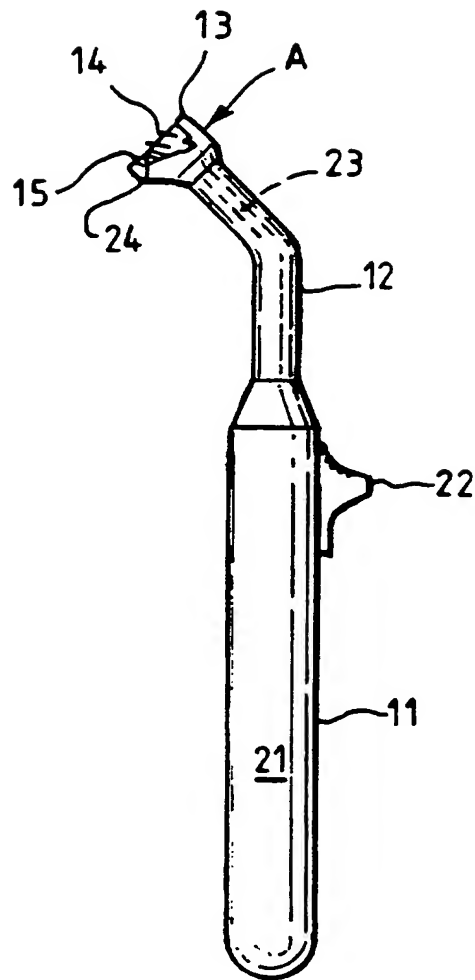


FIG. 1

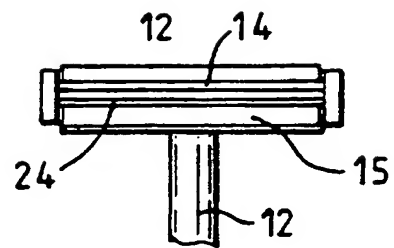


FIG. 3

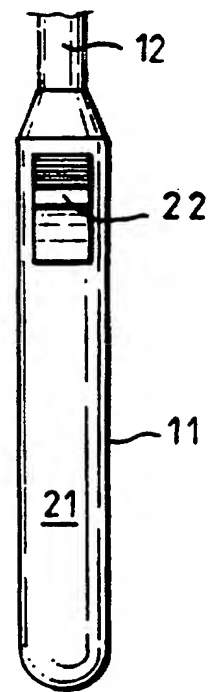


FIG. 2

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int: nal Application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 B26B21/44

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 6 B26B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
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| X | EP,A,0 505 630 (DRAHUS D.P.) 30 September 1992 see the whole document --- | 1-3,5 |
| X | US,A,4 653 188 (KWAK K.H.) 31 March 1987 see the whole document --- | 1,2,4,5 |
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European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+ 31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
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Authorized officer

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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| A | <p>US, A, 4 562 643 (CATAUDELLA J.) 7 January 1986</p> <p>-----</p> | |

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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| US-A-4653188 | 31-03-87 | NONE | |
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